GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:102
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2008
QUALITY IMPROVEMENT OF SCHOOL
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes that have been merged into a composite scheme of 'Quality Improvement of School';and

(b) the reasons for converging the other schemes into one and transferring the component of 'Improvement of Science Education in Schools' to State Governments?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI. M.A.A.FATMI)

(a): During the 10th Plan a composite Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Quality Improvement in Schools" was introduced by converging the following 5 earlier schemes of the Department as its components :-
(i) Improvement of Science Education in Schools

(ii) Environmental Orientation to School Education

(iii) National Population Education Project

(iv) Introduction of Yoga in Schools; and

(v) International Science Olympiads

(b): Expenditure Reforms Commission had recommended discontinuation of the scheme of Yoga and Environment Education on the ground that the allocations under these schemes were too low to make country-wide impact. After considering the matter, the Committee of Secretaries was of the view that Environment Education and Yoga are important components of quality education and should continue in an expanded form.The scheme of Quality Improvement in Schools was formulated in this background.
The component "Improvement of Science Education in Schools" has been transferred to the State Governments/Union territory Administrations as a State Sector Scheme w.e.f. 1.4.2006 since with limited allocation available, it was not possible to make an impact and since it was felt that the States would be in a better position to articulate their priorities through the State Sector Plan.